

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (original) A PTC thermistor comprising:

a conductive member having PTC characteristics; and

two electrodes each placed in two different locations on the conductive member;

wherein the conductive member and at least one of the two electrodes are bonded via an adhesive which has conductivity and which deteriorates in an overheated state and irreversibly increases the electrical resistance.

2. (withdrawn) A circuit protection method that includes a component that generates heat through the flow of excessive current, comprising:

providing a PTC thermistor in the circuit; and

bonding a wiring which composes the circuit to the component in such a way as to allow current to flow using an adhesive which has conductivity and which deteriorates in an overheated state and irreversibly increases the electrical resistance.

3. (previously presented) A thermistor according to claim 1, wherein both of the two electrodes are bonded via the adhesive.

4. (previously presented) A thermistor according to claim 1, wherein one of the two electrodes is bonded to the conductive member via a weld.

5. (previously presented) A thermistor according to claim 1, wherein one of the two electrodes is bonded to the conductive member via solder.

6. (previously presented) A thermistor according to claim 1, wherein the conductive member comprises a conductive polymer.

7. (previously presented) A thermistor according to claim 1, wherein the conductive member comprises a ceramic.
8. (previously presented) A thermistor according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive comprises a thermoplastic resin.
9. (previously presented) A thermistor according to claim 8, wherein the thermoplastic resin comprises vinyl acetate resin, polyvinyl alcohol resin, acrylic resin, vinyl urethane resin, or mixtures thereof.
10. (previously presented) A thermistor according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive comprises a thermosetting resin.
11. (previously presented) A thermistor according to claim 10, wherein the thermosetting resin comprises urea resin, melamine resin, phenol resin, resorcinol resin, epoxy resin, silicone resin, α -olefin maleic acid anhydride resin, polyamide resin, polyimide resin, or mixtures thereof.
12. (previously presented) A thermistor according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive comprises a conductive powder.
13. (previously presented) A thermistor according to claim 12, wherein the conductive powder comprises gold, silver, nickel, or copper.
14. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 2, wherein the component comprises a battery.
15. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 14, wherein the battery is a lithium battery comprising a positive electrode and a negative electrode.
16. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 15, wherein the wiring is bonded to the positive electrode by means of the adhesive.
17. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 16, wherein the negative electrode is connected to the circuit by welding or soldering.
18. (withdrawn) A method according to claim 2, wherein the component comprises a capacitor.